

# Financial Aid News

## WASHINGTON HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

### Online resources for aid administrators

- [Higher Education Coordinating Board Web site](#)
- [HECB secure Web site for aid administrators](#)
- [State Need Grant](#)
- [State Work Study](#)
- [Washington Promise Scholarship](#)
- [Educational Opportunity Grant](#)
- [Washington Scholars Program](#)
- [WAVE](#)
- [Other state aid programs](#)
- [Past issues of the \*Financial Aid News\* and other publications](#)
- [Washington Financial Aid Association](#)
- [Western Association of Financial Aid Administrators](#)
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Issue 25 — April 11, 2003

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### Gov. Locke proposes education trust fund

Gov. Gary Locke on Wednesday called for the creation of a new trust fund for education. Flanked by Democratic leaders in the House and Senate, the governor proposed the fund to provide millions of dollars for programs ranging from early childhood education to student financial aid.

The proposal calls for an initial investment of at least \$100 million, though it did not specify where the funding would come from. Details, the governor said, will be in the House Democrats' budget expected next week.

The governor proposed the new fund as lawmakers in Olympia are wrangling with a \$2.6 billion budget shortfall. A Senate budget, passed last week, calls for no new taxes and deep cuts in state government to meet the shortfall.

You can find more on the proposed trust fund online in [The Seattle Times](#) and [The Olympian](#).

### Legislative update

**House budget is the next major event in march  
toward adjournment**

After the Senate passed a budget last week, all eyes have turned toward the House for the release of its 2003-05 spending plan. The House budget is not expected until later next week, at the earliest. Meanwhile, the end of the

regular session is scheduled for April 27. Lawmakers must finish their work by then or face the likelihood of a special session called by the governor.

### Active bills dwindle after April 4 committee cutoff

April 4 was the last day that most committees could consider bills referred by the opposite chamber. Several bills met the cutoff, but others did not and are unlikely to see further action this session. We've updated our bill chart at the end of the newsletter and removed bills that have little or no chance for additional consideration.

The following are some highlights of the current status of bills of interest to the financial aid community. All of these bills passed their house of origin and have been under consideration by the opposite chamber.

### Bills moving forward

Here are some of the bills with a chance of passage this session:

**Grant program for students with dependents** — Both houses have passed House Bill 1277, which creates a grant assistance program for students with dependents. Private sources would fund the program. The measure awaits the governor's signature.

**EOG and Promise** — The House Higher Education Committee recommended Senate Bill 5676 for passage by the full House. The bill opens the Educational Opportunity Grant program to placebound residents of all 39 counties and allows some GED recipients to be eligible for the Promise Scholarship.

**Tuition refunds for aid recipients** — House Bill 2113 permits four-year public institutions to adopt tuition refund policies that reduce aid recipients' liability in required repayments of financial aid; the Senate Higher Education Committee recommended passage.

**Tuition surcharges for excess credits** — Senate Bill 5135, which passed the Senate last month, requires institutions

### Save the date!

#### Annual financial aid workshops at a location near you

The Board will offer its annual State Student Financial Aid Workshops in four different locations next month:

- **Yakima** — Thursday, May 15 — Yakima Valley Community College
- **Spokane** — Friday, May 16 — Whitworth College
- **Seattle** — Wednesday, May 21 — North Seattle Community College
- **Centralia** — Thursday, May 22 — Centralia College

Each workshop covers 2003-04 updates and provides basic training on State Need Grant, State Work Study, Educational Opportunity Grant, and some of the smaller aid programs. For more information, contact Colleen Scovill at [colleens@hecb.wa.gov](mailto:colleens@hecb.wa.gov) or (360) 753-7850.

to charge higher tuition for students with 125 percent or more of the credits required for graduation. The House Higher Education committee has approved the bill with significant amendments. The House version would permit but not require the tuition surcharges for students with excess credits. If the House version passes a floor vote, both houses will have to hammer out the differences before sending the measure to the governor for signature.

**Tuition setting authority** — Senate Bill 5448 (the governor's tuition bill), which extends institutional tuition-setting authority for all but resident undergraduates through 2008-09, remains alive — though it is a long shot for passage. Instead, lawmakers are expected to extend the authority through language in the final budget.

**Resident tuition for undocumented students** — House Bill 1079 has passed both houses. Amendments by the Senate, however, significantly restricted the groups of students who could qualify for resident tuition. Again, both houses have to reconcile the differences for the bill to reach the governor's desk.

#### **Bills that did not make the cutoff**

The following bills did not meet the April 4 cutoff or otherwise appear to be dead for this session:

**Financial aid carry-forward** — House Bill 1123, which would have permitted the state to carry forward unspent financial aid funds from one fiscal year to the next, will not receive consideration on the Senate floor.

**Tuition waiver proposals** — Both House Bill 1486, which would have provided tuition waivers for the surviving children and spouses of fire fighters and law enforcement officers, and House Bill 2089, which created a new veterans tuition waiver statute, are not moving forward.

**TANF and WorkFirst** — House Bill 2041, which would have allowed students using federal or state work study awards to count as full-time WorkFirst Recipients, did not receive needed Senate committee recommendations.

For more information about legislation, contact us at (360) 753-7850.

#### **No legislative hearings scheduled on bills of interest next week**

At press time, no hearings are scheduled for next week on bills that the *News* has been tracking. If we hear of committees taking up any bills of interest, we'll notify you by e-mail.

## Online resources for tracking and analyzing legislation

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Full text of bills and supporting materials:	<a href="http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.cfm">http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.cfm</a>
Complete legislative hearing schedule:	<a href="http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm">http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm</a>
Live and archived Web broadcast of all hearings:	<a href="http://www.tvw.org">http://www.tvw.org</a>
HECB 2003 legislative session site:	<a href="http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Leg/index.asp">http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Leg/index.asp</a>

## Active bills of interest by subject

Bills that did not meet the latest cutoff have been deleted. For current information about the status of a bill, visit the Washington State Legislature's Web site: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.cfm>.

Bill number Senate House	Sponsor(s)	Description	Passed house of origin	Passed opposite house	Signed by governor
<b>2003-05 operating budget</b>					
<b>SB 5404</b>	Rossi	Makes 2003-05 operating appropriations	✓		
<b>Educational Opportunity Grant and Washington Promise Scholarship</b>					
<b>ESB 5676</b>	Kohl-Welles	Changes elements of the Educational Opportunity Grant program; financially needy placebound residents from all of the state's 39 counties may be eligible; recipients could attend branch campuses; HECB establishes grant amounts  As amended, allows some recipients of GED certificates to be eligible for Promise scholarships	✓		
<b>Tuition refunds for aid recipients</b>					
<b>HB 2113</b>	Morrell, Cox	Permits four-year public institutions to adopt tuition refund policies that reduce aid recipients' liability in required repayments of federal aid	✓		
<b>Other financial aid and tuition waiver proposals</b>					
<b>SSB 5189</b>	Benton	Exempts veterans of the Korean conflict (active duty from 1950-55) from tuition increases	✓		
<b>ESHB 1277</b>	Kenney, Cox	Creates a supplemental educational assistance grant program for State Need Grant eligible students with dependents; private sources would fund the program	✓	✓	

## Active bills of interest by subject — continued

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Bill number Senate House	Sponsor(s)	Description	Passed house of origin	Passed opposite house	Signed by governor
<b>Higher Education Coordinating Board</b>					
<b>ESHB 2076</b>	Kenney, Cox, Fromhold	Replaces Board's current mandate to develop a state master plan for higher education every four years with new guidelines to develop a strategic plan for higher education; authorizes a joint legislative committee to examine and make recommendations for changing or reassigning Board program responsibilities	✓		
<b>Tuition and residency</b>					
<b>E2SSB 5135</b>	Carlson, Kohl-Welles	Requires students with an excess of 125 percent of the credits required for a degree or certificate to pay tuition equivalent to the full cost of instruction  House amendments to the bill permit but do not require institutions to charge additional tuition for students with excess credits  Both houses must reach agreement on the bill before it can be sent to the governor	✓		
<b>EHB 1079</b>	Kenney, Cox	Authorizes resident tuition for certain undocumented students residing in Washington; student must have attended at least three years of high school in the state  Senate amendments significantly restrict the groups of students that would be eligible for resident tuition  Both houses must reach agreement on the bill before it can be sent to the governor	✓	✓	
<b>ESSB 5448</b>	Carlson, Kohl-Welles	Extends institutional tuition-setting authority for all but resident undergraduates through 2008-09; existing authority expires June 30, 2003	✓		

## Active bills of interest by subject — continued

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Bill number Senate House	Sponsor(s)	Description	Passed house of origin	Passed opposite house	Signed by governor
<b>Other higher education proposals</b>					
<b>SHB 2111</b>	Priest, Jarrett	As amended, provides for a legislative study of the feasibility of performance contracts between the state and institutions of higher education	✓	✓	